States, of which the State of West Bengal has been provided with Rs. 1.44 crores and Rs. 10.25 crores and Rs. 3.17 crores respectively for the corresponding period.

Agricultural growth

1117. DR. A.R. KIDWAI:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have advocated private sector participation and substantive reforms in policies to achieve economies of scales in agriculture;

(b) if so, whether India has not been able to achieve the agricultural reforms in the country, so far;

(c) whether Centre has assessed that there will be a handsome rise in farm production during the current year;

(d) whether keeping in view of the good monsoon, Government have fixed a target of growth in agriculture; and

(e) whether sufficient places have been found to accommodate the increased production of foodgrains in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir. The National Agriculture Policy, 2000 outlines the intention of the Government to promote private sector participation by allowing accelerated technology transfer, capital inflow and assured markets for crop production.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. the foodgrains production target for the year 2003-04 has been fixed at 220 MTs as against 182.27 MTs in the year 2002-03.

(e) A scheme called Grameen Bhandaran Yojana for construction, renovation and expansion of storage capacity is under implementation by the Government for increasing storage capacity for the foodgrains produced in the country.

Oilseeds production

1118. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what has been the production of oilseeds in Andhra Pradesh and other Southern States during the last two years, year-wise, State-wise and variety-wise;

(b) how it compares with oilseeds production of other regions of the country; and

(c) what incentives Government have extended to the farmers of Southern States for increasing oilseeds production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ACRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) State-wise, year-wise and variety-wise production of oilseeds in the country including Andhra Pradesh and other Southern States during 2001-02 and 2002-03 is given in the Statement enclosed (*See* below).

(c) In order to increase the production of oilseeds in the country, a Centrally Sponsored Oilseeds Production Programme (OPP) is in implementation in 28 States including Southern States. Under this scheme financial assistance is being provided for various inputs like production and distribution of seeds, distribution of seed minikits, distribution of improved farm implements, sprinkler sets, rhyzobium culture, micro nutrients etc. in order to motivate the farmers to take up cultivation of oilseeds. Further, in order to transfer the improved production and Plant Protection technologies to the farmers field, frontline demonstrations by ICAR and block demonstrations by the States are also organised.